

W claim:

1. A folding support stand for plants, comprising:

(A) a first support frame including a first pair of first and second legs positioned in spaced apart from one another and interconnected by at least one beam member to define a first open region therebetween;

(B) a second support frame including a second pair of first and second legs spaced apart from one another and interconnected by at least one beam member to define a second open region therebetween, said first and second support frames being pivotally connected to one another at a pivot axis for movement between a closed position wherein said first and second support frames generally confront one another and an open position wherein said first and second support frames are at an acute angle with respect to one another;

(C) at least one first trellis piece disposed on and supported by said first support frame and extending across the first open region;

(D) at least one second trellis piece disposed on and supported by said second support frame and extending across the second open region; and

(E) a catch assembly associated with said first and second support frames and operative in a fastened state to restrain relative movement thereof past the open position.

2. A folding support stand according to claim 1 wherein each of said first and second trellis pieces is formed as a slat extending between said first and second legs.

3. A folding support stand according to claim 2 wherein each of said first and second support frames includes an upright trellis piece extending transversely to its respective first and second trellis piece.

4. A folding support stand according to claim 3 wherein each of said first and second support frames includes a plurality of upright trellis pieces extending transversely to its respective first and second trellis piece in a fan-shaped configuration.

5. A folding support stand according to claim 1 wherein each said trellis piece includes a primary plant support formed as spine extending between said first and second legs.

6. A folding support stand according to claim 5 wherein said spine is serpentine in configuration.

7. A folding support stand according to claim 5 wherein each said trellis piece includes a secondary plant support extending laterally of said spine.

8. A folding support stand according to claim 7 wherein said secondary plant support is configured as a leaf-like element.

9. A folding support stand according to claim 1 wherein each of said first and second support frames includes a plurality of trellis pieces secured to said first and second legs and extending across the open region.

10. A folding support stand according to claim 1 wherein said catch assembly is adjustable whereby the acute angle of said support frames when in the open position is selectively variable.

11. A folding support stand according to claim 9 wherein said catch assembly includes a hook disposed on each of said first and second support frames and a chain adapted to be secured to said hooks.

12. A folding support stand according to claim 1 including a pair of catch assemblies associated with said first and second support frames and each operative in a fastened state to restrain relative movement thereof past the open position.

13. A folding support stand for plants adapted to be erected on a support surface, comprising:

(A) a first support frame of generally rectangular configuration including

(1) a first pair of elongated first and second legs each extending along a longitudinal axis, the first and second legs of said first pair being generally parallel to one another,

(2) upper and lower beams oriented in spaced-apart generally parallel relation to one another and interconnecting the first and second legs of said first pair to define a first open region bounded by said upper and lower beams and the first and second legs of said first pair, and

(3) at least one first trellis piece disposed on said first support frame and extending across the first open region, and

(B) a second support frame of generally rectangular configuration including

(1) a second pair of elongated first and second legs each extending along a longitudinal axis generally parallel to one another,

(2) upper and lower beams oriented in spaced-apart generally parallel relation to one another and interconnecting the first and second legs of said second pair to define a second open region bounded by said upper and lower beams and the first and second legs of said second pair, and

(3) at least one second trellis piece disposed on said second support frame and extending across the first open region;

(C) the first leg of said first support frame being pivotally connected to the second leg of said second support frame at a first axis and the first leg of said second support frame being pivotally connected to the second leg of said first support frame at a second axis to define a common pivot axis, each of said first and

second legs having a lower leg section on one side of the pivot axis and an upper leg section on another side of the pivot axis, said first and second support frames being pivotal about the common axis between a closed position wherein said first and second support frames confront one another and an open position wherein said first and second support frames are at an acute angle with respect to one another; and

(D) a catch assembly associated with said first and second support frames and operative in a fastened state to restrain relative movement thereof past the open position.

14. A folding support stand according to claim 13 wherein said first and second support frames are pivotally connected by an axle pin pivotally connecting each said first leg to a respective said second leg.

15. A folding support stand according to claim 13 wherein said lower leg sections are shorter than said upper leg sections.

16. A folding support stand according to claim 13 including a pair of first trellis pieces each extending between said pair of said first and second legs and a pair of second trellis pieces extending between said second pair of said first and second legs.

17. A folding support stand according to claim 16 including a plurality of first auxiliary trellis pieces extending between the upper and lower beams of said first support frame and a plurality of second auxiliary trellis pieces extending between the upper and lower beams of said second support frame.

18. A folding support stand according to claim 13 wherein each of said first and second support frames includes a plurality of trellis pieces extending across the open region thereof.

19. A folding support stand according to claim 13 wherein said catch assembly is adjustable whereby the acute angle of said support frames when in the open position is selectively variable.

20. A folding support stand according to claim 13 wherein each of said upper beams is located proximately to an upper end of its respective said first and second legs and wherein each of said lower legs extends between said upper leg sections proximately to the common pivot axis.

21. A folding support stand according to claim 13 wherein each of said first and second legs has lower ends having a contact face oriented obliquely to the respective longitudinal axis thereof.

22. A folding support stand according to claim 13 including a pair of catch assemblies associated with said first and second support frames and each operative in a fastened state to restrain relative movement thereof past the open position.

23. A folding support stand for plants adapted to be erected on a support surface, comprising:

(A) a first scissor assembly formed by a first pair of first and second legs pivotally secured to one another at a first pivot axis, each of said first pair of first and second legs having an upper leg section on one side of the first pivot axis and a lower leg section on another side of the first pivot axis;

(B) a second scissor assembly formed by a second pair of first and second legs pivotally secured to one another at a second pivot axis, each of said second pair of first and second legs having an upper leg section on one side of the second pivot axis and a lower leg section on another side of the second pivot axis;

(C) at least one first beam member interconnecting the upper leg section of the first leg of said first scissor assembly to the upper leg section of the second leg of

said second scissor assembly in spaced apart relation to one another to define a first support frame having a first open region;

(D) at least one second beam member interconnecting the upper leg section of the second leg of said first scissor assembly to the upper leg section the first leg of said second scissor assembly in spaced apart relation to one another to define a second support frame having a second open region, said first and second support frames pivotally movably with respect to one another between a closed position wherein said first and second support frames generally confront one another and an open position wherein said first and second support frames are at an acute angle with respect to one another;

(E) at least one first trellis piece disposed on said first frame and extending across the first open region;

(F) at least one second trellis piece disposed on said second frame and extending across the second open region; and

(G) a catch assembly associated with said first and second frames and operative in a fastened state to restrain relative movement thereof past the open position.

24. A folding support stand according to claim 23 including a plurality of first beam members interconnecting the upper leg section of the first leg of said first scissor assembly to the upper leg section of the second leg of the second scissor assembly and a plurality of second beam members interconnecting the upper leg section of the second leg of said first scissor assembly to the upper leg section of the first leg of said second scissor assembly, said first beam members being in spaced apart relation to one another and said second beam members being in spaced apart relation to one another.

25. A folding support stand according to claim 24 including a plurality of spaced apart first trellis pieces extending between the upper leg section of the first leg of said first scissor assembly and the upper leg section of the second leg of the second scissor assembly between said first beam members, and including a plurality of spaced apart second trellis pieces extending between the upper leg section of the second leg of the first scissor assembly and the upper leg section of the first leg of said second scissor assembly between said second beam members.

26. A folding support stand according to claim 25 including a plurality of auxiliary trellis pieces extending between said first beams and including a plurality of auxiliary trellis pieces extending between said second beams.

27. A folding support stand according to claim 23 wherein said catch assembly is adjustable whereby the acute angle of said support frames when in the open position is selectively variable.

28. A folding support stand according to claim 23 wherein said upper leg sections are longer than said lower leg sections.